

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary

Week of March 19- Prayers of the People

- Charlie Sykes
- Frances Hasty
- Paul Butler
- David and Debbie Garth
- Greg Graupmann
- Lane Pittman
- Robert Norfleet
- Mae Holoman
- Emily Bond
- Monica Manley
- Those who have COVID

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Edna Broadhurst
12 Burma Smith
13 Penny Brangan
13 Mary Fitzwater
21 Mallory James Smith
22 Jennifer Patgorski
24 Nancy Frazier
26 Mike McCormick
28 Nancy Grant

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 19, 2023 – 10:30 AM

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list, too. Welcome! **Today, we welcome Heejin Weisbrod, our violinist. Thank you for providing your beautiful music to enrich our service.**

Prelude "Tranquillo" Tomaso Albioni

Choral Call to Worship

Invocation

Hymn 624 "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

God of ancient covenants, who never breaks trust, we thank you for baptismal waters that pour out your steadfast love for all creation. Thank you for the salvation promise you have kept. In the name of Jesus, the Living Water, we pray.

God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world. We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions. Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace.

Assurance of God's Grace

In the shadow of the Almighty, we take shelter. As a hen gathers her chicks under protective wings, God gathers us in love. From this place of motherly mercy, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Response "Gloria Patri" Hymn 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Dan Forrest

Arise, my Soul, arise, shake off they guilty fears; the bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears; before the throne my Surety stands. My name is written on His hands. Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary. They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me; “Forgive him, O Forgive,” they cry, “nor let that ransomed sinner die.” My God is reconciled, His voice I hear, He owns His child, I can no longer fear. With confidence I now draw nigh, and “Father, Abba, Father,” cry! Arise, my soul, arise!

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts; as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn 451

“Open My Eyes”

Lesson

Ephesians 5: 8-14

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Sermon

“Wake Up!”

Rev. Steve Frazier

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism - Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.

Obedying the word of our Lord Jesus, and sure of his presence with us, we baptize those whom he has called to be his own. In baptism God claims us and puts a sign on us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the body of Christ, and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice. Let us remember and rejoice in our own baptism, as we celebrate this sacrament.

Gail: At the request of Mallory and Michael Smith, and by unanimous vote of the session, I present

Cooper John Smith, and Riley Jane Smith to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Let us pray: God our Father: we thank you for your faithfulness, promised in this sacrament, and for the hope we have in your Son Jesus. As we baptize with water, baptize us with your Holy Spirit, so that what we may be your word and what we do may be your work. By your power, may we be made one with Christ our Lord in common faith and purpose. Amen!

Mallory and Michael, do you desire that Cooper and Riley be baptized? Do you?

And relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith and to teach that faith to your children? Do you?

Gail: (The Congregation will stand.) "Our Lord Jesus Christ ordered us to teach those who are baptized. Do you, the people of the church, promise to tell this new disciple the good news of the gospel, to help her know all that Christ commands, and, by your fellowship strengthen her family ties to the household of God?" Do you?

Baptism – Cooper John Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Riley Jane Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Anointing with Oil – Cooper and Riley, you are forever marked as children of the covenant, sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism, and with this oil of gladness you are marked as Christ's own forever. “See what love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God.”

Hymn 853

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”

Benediction

Postlude

“Jesus, Be with Us”
(Please join the choir in singing)

Gambrell

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day
to follow the Gospel and live as we pray.
Send us your Spirit and show us your way
Jesus be with us today.

Where there is hunger and thirst in the land,
scatter the systems of greed.
Jesus be with us, make use of our hands.
Lift up your people in need.

Please join us in the Courtyard Lobby for refreshments after worship!